



July 5, 2023

Margaret Lashar & Katelyn Woods
Dept. of Natural Resources
Tawes State Office Bldg. E-4
580 Taylor Ave.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Anne Arundel County
FY2024 Program Open Space Annual Program

Dear Ms. Lashar & Ms. Woods,

Enclosed is Anne Arundel County's Fiscal Year 2024 Program Open Space Annual Program, which provides a description of potential park acquisition and development grant requests to be submitted during fiscal year 2024. The projects listed in the Annual Program are consistent with the proposed 2022 Anne Arundel County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan, the County's Plan 2040 and the Planning Act of 1992 as detailed within the project descriptions. Projects for the City of Annapolis are included in accordance with their current capital improvement program and their available share of POS funds.

This year's Annual Program includes land acquisition projects totaling \$11,494,914 and park development projects totaling \$5,934,027. The County will select projects from this list based on funds available.

Anne Arundel County extends its appreciation to the Department of Natural Resources and the Maryland Department of Planning for the continued support of our land preservation and park development efforts. Program Open Space is essential to the expansion of our park system as we strive to accommodate the needs of Anne Arundel County residents.

If you have any questions or require more information, please do not hesitate to contact our Department at 410-222-7867. Your review and endorsement of our Program will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

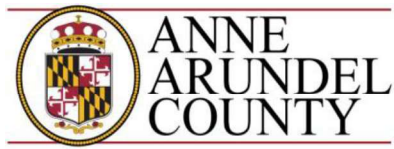
Erica J. Matthews

Erica J. Matthews

Deputy Director

Enclosures

Cc: Debbie Herr Cornwell, PLA, ASLA, CC-P



**Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Program Open Space Annual Program
For FY 2024**



*Enjoy – Explore – Restore
We Make Life Better!*



**Anne Arundel County
Program Open Space
Fiscal Year 2024
Annual Program
July 1, 2023**

Introduction

Anne Arundel County hereby submits the fiscal year 2024 Annual Program for continued participation in the grant funding provided by Program Open Space. The project selection process in Anne Arundel County is based on the following criteria:

- The need for parkland and recreation facilities in growth areas
- Additions to existing parks, natural areas, and trail corridors
- Protection of sensitive natural resources and wildlife habitat
- Protection of Green Infrastructure and identified Greenways
- Compliance with the Twelve State Planning Visions
- Compliance with the adopted 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan
- Compliance with Plan2040, General Development Plan for Anne Arundel County
- Recommendations in the 16 Small Area Plans
- Distribution of available funds to benefit all communities, County-wide

Below are the projects included in this Annual Program. The Acquisition and Development projects, as well as, the detailed descriptions and maps are attached.

Land Acquisition Projects

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>State Share</u>
Race Road Properties	\$ 5,917,000.00
Wilkerson Property	\$ 2,000,000.00
2027 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan	\$ 25,000.00
Elizabeth Road Property	\$ 300,000.00
Saltworks Properties, P. 300 & P. 668	\$ 1,000,000.00
Anne Arundel County – Properties Undetermined	\$ 1,671,127.69
City of Annapolis – Properties Undetermined	<u>\$ 581,786.69</u>
Total	\$11,494,914.38

Park Development Projects

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>State Share</u>
Anne Arundel County-Ft. Smallwood Phase II, Installment	\$ 307,100.00
Anne Arundel County-Odenton Library Community Park	\$1,752,000.00
Anne Arundel County-Eisenhower Golf Course Clubhouse	\$2,996,246.65
City of Annapolis-Projects Undetermined	<u>\$ 878,680.17</u>
Total	\$5,934,026.82

Land Acquisition Projects

Acquisition Project

Race Road Properties

\$ 5,917,000.00

This acquisition consists of eight contiguous properties owned by various entities in the west area of Anne Arundel County. The Win Commercial Group brought these entities together and intend to offer the properties as an assemblage. The potential to develop specialized recreation facilities in a non-residential zone may result in a favorable cost benefit scenario. Although this property is located near the Anne Arundel-Howard County border, it is in an area having recreation needs based on the 2022 LPPRP. The FY23 amendment to our Annual Program listed this acquisition as \$3.5M and has since been revised to the \$5.917M.

This property is consistent with the 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) as follows:

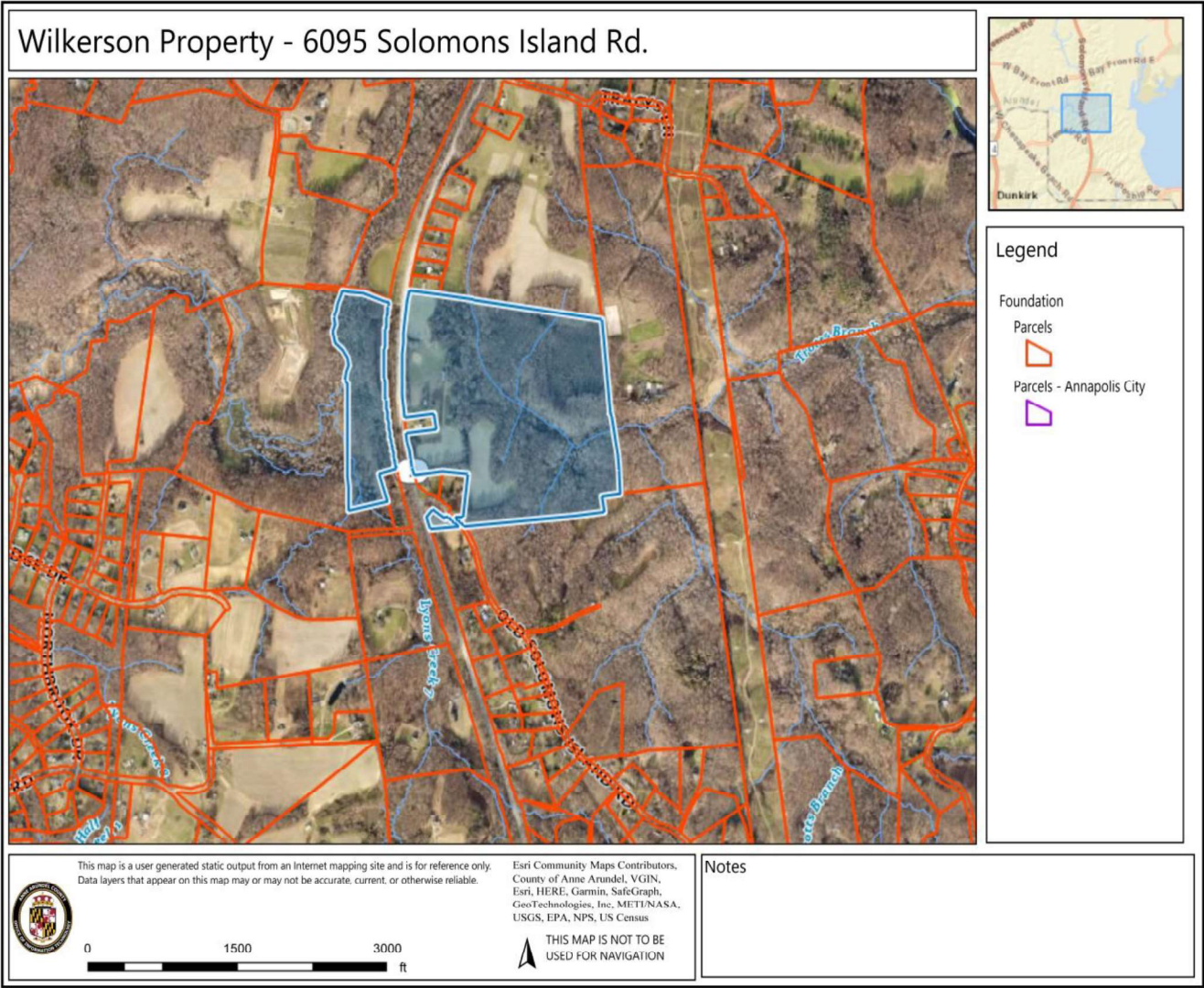
- According to the Proximity Analysis within the 2022 LPPRP, some residents in the Fort Meade and Jessup areas lack indoor recreation facilities within a half mile service area. Based on the Park Equity Analysis there is a medium to medium-high need for additional parks in these areas. Nearby communities that have a need for park acreage are Jessup, Linthicum, and Glen Burnie.
- Specialized facilities such as dog parks, BMX tracks, skate parks, indoor recreation facilities and pickle ball courts are in short supply throughout the County.



Acquisition Project

Wilkerson Property-6095 Solomons Island Road, Tracys Landing \$ 2,000,000.00
Project Description:

This acquisition of 107.28 acre former farm in the South County location would be suitable for sports fields, parking, trails, picnicking and horseback riding trails. In Plan2040 Goal HC8, the County aims to provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents. This acquisition would provide fields needed in this area of the County. Improve and expand recreational opportunities for the community to have proximity to facilities and programs.



Acquisition Project

2027 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan

\$ 25,000.00

Installment #1

This request represents Program Open Space Installment #1 to fund the 2027 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). As part of the 2027 LPPRP the County will conduct a countywide citizen survey. This survey will help determine the current and future needs for recreation facilities, and the level of support for open space and natural resource protection through easement or fee simple purchases. This project is consistent with the State Planning Visions by gathering public input for local and State land use planning.

Acquisition Project

Elizabeth Road Park Glen Burnie, MD

\$ 300,000.00

This acquisition would expand Elizabeth Road Park in Glen Burnie, MD. Currently the County owns a portion of Parcel 143 consisting of .656 acres while the Glen Burnie Civic Association owns the remaining 3.4927 acres of Parcel 143. Currently there are two rundown tennis courts and it is the County's intention to restore the park for the public to use.

This property is consistent with the 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) as follows:

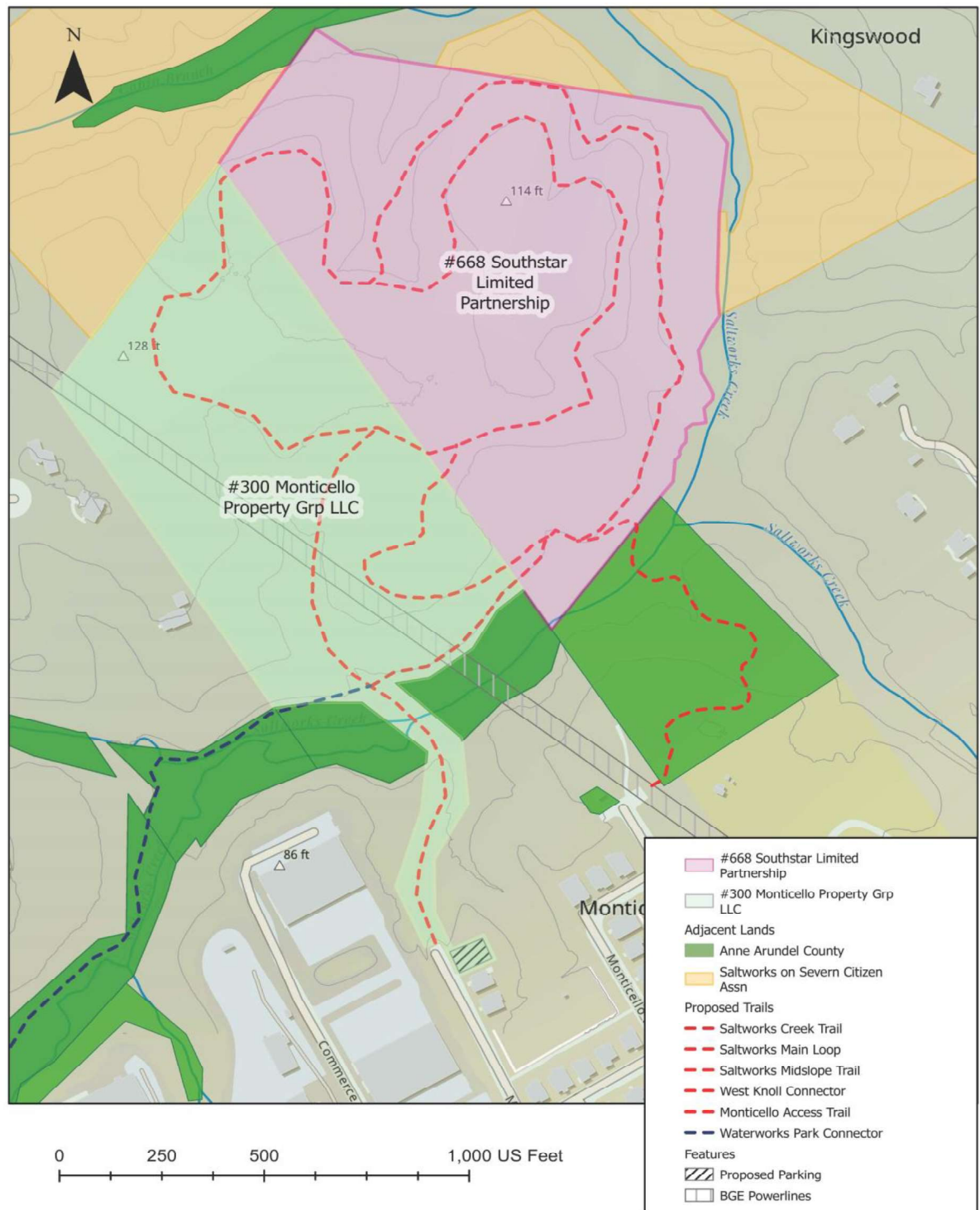
- This property adds land to an existing park which the plan recommends as an alternative to the acquisition and development of new parks.
- This acquisition would provide an updated park in the Glen Burnie Area where based on Park Equity and Park Proximity identifies great need for park and recreation facilities.



Anne Arundel County-Saltworks Properties P. 300 & P. 668

\$1,000,000.00

Saltworks Creek Conceptual Trail Map



The County envisions this property being used as a passive park for wildlife observation, personal recreation and will include limited development such as shared use paths. This purchase would allow the County to preserve land that lies within 3000 feet of the Broad Creek Greenway as presented in the 2002 AACO Greenway Master Plan. The recently adopted Green Infrastructure Plan includes the subject parcel and labels it as an "unprotected" parcel. The subject property is entirely forested and located between Salt Works Creek and Cabin Branch. The site looks to be connected to an additional 37 parcels of protected land. The combination of these two parcels plus the other 37 would result in about 277 acres of protected forested land. Preliminary research also indicates the property includes environmental features that should be preserved. The site has the following attributes:

- Entirely forested
- Subject site and all surrounding parcels are categorized as Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS) habitat
- It is bordered on the north by Cabin Branch and on the south by Salt Works Creek; two tributaries of the Severn River
- The access strip from Moran Drive crosses Salt Works Creek and includes a half acre of non-tidal wetlands and floodplain
- It connects to the Broad Creek Greenway via a 39 acre HOA Open Space parcel and a combination of four BGE parcels totaling 8 acres
- Over 60% of the subject parcels, P300 and P688) consists of 15 to 25% slopes or greater. Protection of these forested slopes is highly beneficial to the water quality of Salt Works Creek and Cabin Branch.

This property is consistent with the 2022 Anne Arundel County Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) as follows:

- The acquisition of land in the Green Infrastructure network is supported by the LPPRP - this acquisition would add 27 acres of public land to the Broad Creek Greenway and the Green Infrastructure Severn River Watershed segment. The LPPRP identifies a capital project to acquire parkland, and land within the Greenway network, currently active within the DRP Capital Budget.
- The acquisition of land to protect and enhance forest cover, and sensitive resources is strongly supported by the LPPRP.
- Stream buffer protection is also supported by the LPPRP.

This property is consistent with the recommendations of the year 2000 Crownsville Small Area Plan as follows:

- Protect large tracts of forest on the Severn River by fee simple acquisition or easement.
- Implement a system of Green ways to protect sensitive natural resources and wildlife habitat.

Anne Arundel County-Properties to be determined	\$1,671,127.69
City of Annapolis-Properties to be determined	\$ 581,786.69

Development Projects

Ft. Smallwood Park Phase II-Installment #4 **\$ 307,100.00**

This project will design and construct Phase II improvements to Fort Smallwood Park in accordance with the park master plan and the recent expansion of use to accommodate public swimming.

Proposed improvements will include expanded beach area parking, a new concession and restroom buildings, a storm shelter, a visitor’s center, a maintenance building, repair of the existing concession stands, and winterization of an existing restroom building.

Total Project Cost	\$17,670,000.00
POS Assistance	
Installment #1 (FY20)	\$488,778.00
Installment #2 (FY22)	\$3,194,363.68
Installment #3 (FY23)	\$1,412,194.00
Additional (FY23)	\$ 424,250.00
Installment #4 (FY24)	\$ 307,100.00

This project is identified within Table III-17 of the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan as a facility development project. This project is consistent with the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan and with new initiatives identified in the Department of Recreation and Parks Capital Improvement Program by upgrading existing parks and developing new parks.

This project complies with Plan 2040 by prioritizing-preserving, enhancing, and restoring sensitive areas, including habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, streams, floodplains, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, bogs, shorelines, steep slopes, and all applicable buffers as well as protecting environmentally sensitive areas in the County’s Critical Areas. This development will provide community facilities and services that will meet the needs of all residents and provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents. These recreation and parks facilities will be accessible to all residents and provide a variety of recreational opportunities. Finally, this project will promote the stewardship of historic resources and County-owned archaeological collections, and encourage the adaptive re-use of historic properties and the preservation of historic and cultural landscapes.

The project is consistent with the State Planning Visions by exhibiting the quality of life benefits, sustainability, and state and local collaboration to address recreational needs.



Department of Recreation and Parks
Fort Smallwood Park



Odenton Library Community Park**\$1,752,000.00**

This project is to design and construct a community park adjacent to the Odenton Regional Library in Odenton, MD. The park will include a railroad themed playground, sports courts, trails, dog-park, pavilions, pedestrian bridge/boardwalk, gazebo and two viewing decks as well as parking, stormwater management and utility expansion. Interpretive opportunities present themselves through the wetland areas and wooded spaces. The 2022 Draft Odenton Master Plan supports Odenton Community Park. Its community members advocated for the park as a unifying amenity of the Core and are eager for a high-quality public space to connect residents of the area.

The 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan supports Odenton Community Park as one of the new recreation sites to be developed. Table III-17 Land Acquisition, Development and Rehabilitation Recommendations of the 2022 LPPRP lists this project meeting the public's demand and proximity needs.

This project aligns with Plan2040 as this park will be developed using sustainable design principles in the creation of this new community facility. Odenton Library Community Park will provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents as well as improve and expand recreational opportunities for all communities to have facilities and programs nearby. The park will be accessible to all residents and provide a variety of recreational opportunities.

**Eisenhower Golf Course Clubhouse****\$2,996,246.65**

The purpose of this project is to design and construct a clubhouse at Eisenhower Golf Course located at 1576 Generals Highway, Crownsville, MD. The golf course was recently renovated the clubhouse would support the expanded use of the golf course. The clubhouse would include a pro-shop, restrooms, staff offices, food service and event space. The 2022 LPPRP lists this facility development project in Table III-17 and is a County-wide demand need.

This project aligns with Plan2040 as these areas will be developed using sustainable design principles to serve the needs of the public and to enhance the park experience for all. A high quality of life and sustainability shall be provided with this development. The golf course acquisition was funded by Program Open Space in 2019.



Upper Parking View



Golf Course View

City of Annapolis-Projects to be determined	\$ 878,680.17
--	----------------------

PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION
FISCAL YEAR 2024

<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Project Name, Project Description</u>	<u>Acreage</u>			<u>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</u>			
		<u>Existing</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>POS Stateside</u>	<u>State (PO Funds)</u>	<u>Undetermined</u>
Anne Arundel County, MD	Race Road Properties. This acquisition provides needed recreation area for the community	0	13.775	13.775	5,917,000		5,917,000	
Anne Arundel County, MD	Elizabeth Road. This acquisition could provide BMX, playground, dog park, pickleball	0.656	4.156	3.5	300,000		300,000	
Anne Arundel County, MD	Wilkerson Property. 6095 Solomons Island Rd. Tracys Landing, MD	0	107.28	107.28	2,000,000		2,000,000	
Anne Arundel County, MD	FY27 LPPRP - Installment #1				25,000		25,000	
Anne Arundel County, MD	Saltworks Properties, P. 300 & P. 668	0	47	47	1,000,000		1,000,000	
Anne Arundel County, MD	Properties yet to be determined				1,671,127		1,671,127	
City of Annapolis	Properties yet to be determined (FY24 allocation + prior years unencumbered)				581,787		581,787	
	TOTALS	0.656	172.211	171.555	11,494,914	0	11,494,914	0

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2024**

<u>Sponsor</u>	Anne Arundel County				<u>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</u>			
		Existing	Ultimate	Project	Total	Local (County Funds)	State (POS Local Funds)	Federal
Anne Arundel County	Eisenhower Golf Course	200.09	200.09		\$4,996,247	\$2,000,000	\$2,996,247	
Anne Arundel County	Ft. Smallwood Park-Installment	110.65	110.65		\$3,088,000	\$2,780,900	\$307,100	
Anne Arundel County	Odenton Library Community Park	13.4	13.4	13.4	\$2,765,000	\$1,013,000	\$1,752,000	
City of Annapolis	City of Annapolis (includes prior FY funds)	TBD	TBD		\$878,680	\$0	\$878,680	
	TOTALS				\$11,727,927	\$5,793,900	\$5,934,027	